

Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly COMECIA BULLETIN

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ANARCHIST HOTLINE

535-5731



International Monetary Fund Calls for More Cutbacks

COUGH UP!

fthe federal government gets away with the tax grabs in its last budget and in the upcoming goods and services tax, don't expect its efforts to reduce our living standards to stop there. From its Washington meeting comes a demand from the International Murder Fund for further cuts in

Canada's social programs (Toronto Star 25-9-89 pB1), which given the Canadian government's inability to withstand any sort of U.S. pressure will doubtless be reflected in next year's budget.

The IMF is the agency through which the western industrialized nations regulates the amount of capital made available to the non-industrialized, "third world" countries. In dealing with the third world, the IMF has traditionally made such funds dependent upon the recipient government having virtually no social programs, and keeping workers' wages at a subsistence or below-subsistence level. Small farmers are turned off their land, which instead of feeding them is diverted to producing luxury crops for export.

By these methods, the country is able to export more than it imports, and the balance is credited to the debt which these nations supposedly owe the industrial ones. (Actually, the money has already been more than repaid, but by calling the repayment "interest" the IMF countries are able

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Anniversary of the Lubicon Blockades

Honour Aboriginal Rights

A year has passed since the Lubicon Lake Indian Nation declared its sovereignty and blockaded access roads to their traditional area. Yet still their 50 year old land claim struggle has not been resolved.

Although the Albertan provincial government and the Nation have since then been negotiating in good faith for a settlement, the federal government has since January been refusing to negotiate and has instead

carried out an incessant propaganda campaign against the nation, up to and including the creation of an entirely new aboriginal group in the Lubicon area in order to muddy what are crystal clear waters. Faced with this the Nation is considering further assertion of its jurisdiction on an area never ceded to Canada in treaty or war.

Meanwhile in Ontario the Temagami forests have been the site of a fight between nearby townspeople, who are afraid conservation of the

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IMF Orders More Cutbacks

to keep the debt forever alive.) Since the workers and small farmers tend to resist these measures, the IMF countries—chiefly through open or covert activities of the U.S. government and its agencies—maintain in power elitist regimes, who use most of the money supplied by the IMF.

Now Canada is in line for the same sort of treatment. The elitist government is in place, most of the small farmers have been dispossessed and replaced by factory farms, and whereas unionized workers still make good money a growing segment of the working population is being forced into part-time or service industry jobs at subsistence wages. The goods and services tax, which blatantly transfers a large part of the taxpaying burden from industries (which will no longer pay a manufacturing tax) to the public, is but an initial step in a process whose goal is to reduce the general populace to the standard of living it endured a century ago, and which its third world counterparts still endure. Similar measures are being taken against the populations of the other industrial nations.

What's behind all this is a growing realization that the environment indeed imposes limits to growth, and a determination by the industrialists that, if the economic pie must shrink, it won't be them that get a smaller piece (indeed, they want their piece to continue growing to finance their mergers and takeovers.) Their strategy is to resist environmental reform—which even the densest of them must by now realize is inevitable if anyone is to survive—until the public has been brought round to accepting substantially lower living standards.

So far, our response has been entirely directed towards resisting each new government attack on our living standards as it occurs. Currently a Montreal coalition is trying to mobilize opposition to the UIC cuts, TTC workers are doing a slowdown to resist introduction of part-time jobs. and liberals are muttering about some sort of taxpayers' revolt when the new tax is implemented. These protests have the cards stacked against them-by reducing living standards by stages instead of all at once, the state can generally convince most people that they have more to gain by remaining passive than by resisting, especially people stupefied by television. And the ferocity with which cops and troops are killing and torturing dissenters in virtually every country in the world indicates that the 19th century industrialist Frick's boast that he could easily hire half the workers to kill the other half is equally true today.

We should consider an alternative strategy of recognizing the need for less consumption, and working to create a self-sustaining economy based on renewable resources. More leisure and less alienated work would surely compensate for fewer material goods. Instead of fighting the cops to the amusement of the industrialists, we could be busy right now creating communities where these ideals would apply and inviting others to join them.

written by a member of the Ecomedia collective

TTC DRIVERS: LET US RIDE

any of us have tales of being "inconvenienced" by the current work to rule/work slowdown campaign by the workers of the TTC. And, if we don't have our own tales, then we have certainly heard the media stories of long waits, overcrowded cars and (gasp) no uniforms.

Management encourages the current situation because the riders become the victims and the heat of their anger is applied to those on the front lines, the workers. As management turns up the heat on the workers, the workers turn up the heat on the riders, hoping they in turn will put heat on the managers. However,

because of the media's ideological misinformation campaign, the riders see the workers as the culprits in the situation. Meanwhile, management is let off the hook and laughs as riders and workers, natural allies in a situation like this, are instead at each others' throats.

So what to do?

Let us ride for free.

That's right. Let everyone ride for free. Such a move makes the riders happy. We would see the workers as working with us rather than against us. Workers would win the support of riders. Management would be forced to react, especially because there is nothing management hates doing

Honour Aboriginal Rights (Cont. from pg 1)

area will cost them their jobs, and environmentalists, who are mainly Torontonians afraid of losing a good "recreational area". The land is actually the ancestral home of the Teme-Augama Anishnabe who have an outstanding claim to the area. Until the claim is recognized, the land must be left alone; the right lies with the Teme-Augama Anishnabe to decide the future of the area — not Bob Rae, Toronto environmentalists, or the white Temagami residents.

Across the country in Nitassinan (in Labrador), the Innu people have been continuing their land claim struggle and fight against the NATO base in

FOR FREE

more than losing money. They would be forced to either negotiate or lock the workers out. And if they chose the latter route, then it would be the managers who would be rightly seen as the villains.

So the riders and the workers would be where they belong. Together in unity. And perhaps, with that kind of solidarity, the workers could consider unning the transit system themselves, a spite of a lockout. Using their experience and skills to self manage their work, demonstrating to us all that the eal parasites are the managers and soliticians who spend our money, eeping lots of it for themselves.

or a free, self managed transit sysem.

Goose Bay. The low level flight testing carried out at the base disrupts their traditional hunting/trapping lifestyle. Three Innu women and one man are now being held in

custody for blocking take-offs and landings by West German planes at the base on September 19. They will be held at least until October 24 (when they next appear in court to set a trial date) because they have refused to sign a recognissance that they will keep off the runway at

the base. One woman, Martha Hurley, has already broken one such order by taking action on the 19th. The Innu women need letters of support to them at their prison address*.

Along with these relatively higher profile struggles going on in Canada right now, many First Nations are fighting against a government which is worse than unresponsive—which is downright hostile, in fact, to any Native Nation seeking to assert itself. On Thursday, October 12, people will be getting together to bring attention to the federal government's inaction and unwillingness to deal with its responsibilities towards Aboriginal Nations in Canada. The date is significant in that it's not only the anniversary of the Lubicon blockades, (for which events are also happening in other Canadian and

European cities), but it is also Columbus Day, the day a European "discovered" an already inhabited continent and began the genocidal invasion of the Americas.

The evening will begin with food and reception at 5:30pm, and the program will open at 6pm. The film "Our Land. Our Life" by Ed Bianchi, about the Lubicon Lake Indian Nation will be shown, and followed by a message from Bernard Ominayak, chief of the Lubicon Nation. The

evening will feature a land claims panel with Chiefs Gary Potts, Vernon Roote, Harvey Bell, Patrick Madahbee, Joe Hare, and a representative from the Nishnawbe Aski nation. It will also feature a legal issues panel with Gord Peters , Harry Laforme , William Henderson, and Paul Williams. Music by the James Bay Singers and the Eagle Heart Drummers. All this is at the Native Canadian Centre, 16 Spadina rd, Toronto. It's being presented by the Friends of the Lubicon (Toronto), Friends of Teme-Augama Anishnabe, Native Canadian Centre, CKLN-FM and CIUT-FM. For more information, call 947-0808.

*Write to the Innu women: Rose Gregoire, Martha Hurley, and Jackie Ashini, all c/o Stephenville Correctional Centre, box 660, Stephenville Nfld, A2N 3B5 Canada. Write to Rafael Gregoire, c/o Labrador Correctional Centre, Happy Valley/Goose Bay, Labrador, A0P 1E0.

THINGS TO DO

OCT 7: Condor meets the Eagle-500 years of resistance benefit concert at the Native Canadian Centre (16 Spadina rd) with the Eagle Heart Drummers. Nazka, Djanet Quammie. 7pm.

OCT 12: Honour Aboriginal Rights (see article page 1)

OCT 14: Demonstrate for reproductive rights at 12 noon, Queens Park, For more information phone Ontario Coalition for Abortion Clinics at 969-8463.

OCT 14: Andrew Cash in concert at the Diamond, 410 Sherbourne St. Benefit for the Innu. \$8.

OCT 15: Honour Mother Earth Day. location to be announced. Phone Canadian Alliance in Solidarity with Native Peoples for more info at 588-2712.

to announce an event through Ecomedia just phone the anarchist hotline at 535-5731 and leave a message. The event will be put here and on the hotline (a phone-in calendar for political events)

Ecomedia Toronto

Ecomedia is an international "wire service" which acts as an alernative to the regular news services. We focus on autonomous and anarchist resistance and analysis of current events.

Ecomedia Toronto is involved in three main projects: two radio shows; every Wednesday on CKLN 88.1FM between 7 & 8pm as part of their "Word of Mouth" program; and on CIUT 89.5FM, 12:15 every Friday. And we publish this bulletin, which comes out every two weeks and is available free at locations in Toronto; subscriptions are \$15 for 26 issues (1 year) which are mailed every 2 issues to cut costs. Order yours from the address on the front. Make cheques or M.O.'s payable to Ecomedia.

For those who wish to support us further, donations of both money and time are welcome. The collective is shortstaffed right now and any help is greatly appreciated. Write to find out how.



fter 21 months, the Palestinian popular uprising-the intifada-continues. Despite brutal repression of the zionist occupation resulting in over 600 martyrs, tens of thousands injured, imprisoned and tortured, house demolitions and deportations, the intifada has not been crushed.

In the West, the established press portrays the intifada as a series of violent confrontations: youths engaged in militant struggle, the general population subjected to the repressive measures of the occupation forces. Yet there is so much more to the intifada than this. Working together in popular committees, the

people have set about creating an alternative to the occupation, building independent political, economic and social structures of their own.

The intifada is agricultural cooperatives, home economics, popular education, popular health services, the boycott of zionist products, the merchants' strike, raising chickens, baking bread and making yogurt, classes from elementary to university level. health care in the camps and towns.

Participating in the popular committees, working collectively and productively, organizing every aspect of their lives has given people a deep sense of value for their own abilities. It was the self-initiative of the masses that brought the popular committees into being. They were formed by the people in response to the demands of their situation, and in direct confrontation with the occupation. Since then, they have developed into a network coordinating and unifying their work from a street and neighbourhood level to that of a city, town or village to a regional and national level.

On an economic level, the popular committees are working towards selfsufficiency, which will enable the intifada to endure. Politically and socially, a new basis for social relations in developing. Society as it was, people say, has been radically

changed.

"The intifada means a new way of life, and we can never go back to the way things were before. There is no way back, Intifada until the end of the occupation.



NO WAY BACK!"